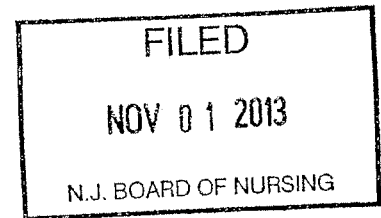


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STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
BOARD OF NURSING

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IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF :	Administrative Action
:	:
NARRISSA PIERCE, R.N. :	:
LICENSE # NO05527900 :	CONSENT ORDER
:	:
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE :	:
STATE OF NEW JERSEY :	:

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This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing (" Board") upon receipt of information that respondent failed to timely assess a patient under circumstances where

timely assessment was warranted. Patient L.W., a prisoner suffering from mental illness who engaged in violent outbursts, at South Woods State Prison, had been transferred to the Extended Care Unit (ECU) between 5:00 P.M. and 5:25 P.M. on May 20, 2005.

L.W. had been transferred because he was drowsy, with slurred speech, was answering questions inappropriately, showed severe weakness in his arms, and his blood pressure was 150/100. Because L.W. was on detention status, respondent was not permitted to enter the room in which L.W. was placed to examine him until a corrections officer was present to escort her into the room, according to the institutional policy. Respondent was initially able to see him through the cell window, lying on the bed. She was not able to get an officer escort and thus did not examine him until approximately 5:50 P.M. At 6:15 P.M. a 911 call was made, and L.W. was transferred to an acute care hospital where he was diagnosed with a hemorrhagic stroke. L.W. suffered permanent damage from the stroke.

Respondent could have expedited an assessment of L.W. by calling a "Code 53," which summons immediate help from the medical staff, but did not do so. The Board finds that respondent's failure to consider calling a "Code 53" under the circumstances, although mitigated by contributory negligence and/or misconduct on the part of other individuals at the facility with respect to the treatment of L.W., still constitutes

professional misconduct within the intendment of N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e).

The Board finding that there is good cause for the entry of this order, and that the within order is sufficiently protective of the public health, safety and welfare, in lieu of further proceedings and for other good cause shown;

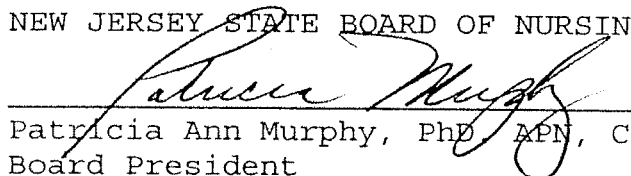
IT IS on this 1<sup>st</sup> day of November, 2013

HEREBY ORDERED AND AGREED that:

1. Respondent shall, within six months of the signing of this order, document completion of a nursing continuing education course in critical thinking approved by the Board.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

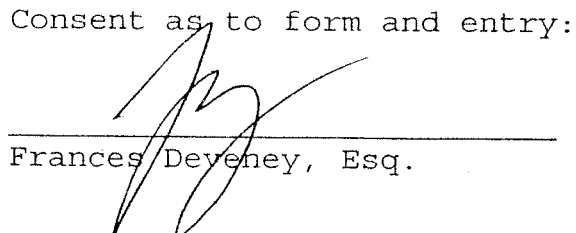
By:

  
Patricia Ann Murphy, PhD, APN, C  
Board President

I have read and understand  
the within Consent Order  
and agree to be bound by  
its terms.

  
Narissa Pierce, R.N.

Consent as to form and entry:

  
Frances Deveney, Esq.